

the past year. Land ownership has aided immeasurably by controlling and preventing the blight usually found in and around towns.

ANNEXATIONS

There are many individual and interrelated economic, social, physical and political aspects involved in the size and shape of any municipality. There are also many urban municipalities with corporate limits and zoning restrictions and subdivision controls well beyond the existing urban development. There is a substantial amount of duplication, overlap and vagueness in the jurisdiction and confusion may often exist over the multitude of governmental facilities and services. An optimum would include varying levels of town, county, state and national governmental organization enabling uniform services and an equitable tax structure. This is obviously a utopian ideal and impractical except in the ultimate objective of academic theory.

There is no definite or absolute delineation made for the composite of school districts, water service, police protection, sewer lines, fire protection, voting precincts, tax collection, library circulation, road maintenance, land planning, beverage control, code enforcements, licensing laws, and court jurisdiction. Each seems to exist in a vacuum somewhat separate from its' distant but related counterpart in the design of the total comprehensiveness of man's living environment and community.

The physical size of the Town of Southern Pines has increased several times and in various fashion during the past eighty years since it was originally incorporated as a municipality. The largest and most significant of these extensions were the West Southern Pines addition in 1931 and that of Knollwood in 1954 and the earlier one in 1946. Each of these augmented the area of the town by roughly one-fourth. Along with the inclusion of any additional area within the corporate limits of the town goes the legal responsibility of providing